

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of 11/20/2002 has been carefully reviewed, and these remarks have been prepared in response thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

A new descriptive title that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed was required. Accordingly, the specification has been amended to include such a title.

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The office action required that the following features be either shown in the drawings or cancelled from the claims: the scallop of the base, the at least one axle, and at least one support. The scallops of the base are shown in Figure 6 with reference number 98, as indicated in the following quotation from paragraph 43 of the specification:

The protruding lip 84 is accommodated as each hypotenusal face 96 has a scallop 98 and the bottom 90 of the base 14 has a front edge 100 extending between the scallops 98.

The at least one axle is shown in Figures 9 and 10 with reference number 134, as indicated in the following quotation from paragraph 43 of the specification:

Referring to Figs. 9 and 10, axles 134 are then inserted through the axle bores 106 of the lid segments 16, 18, and 20.

Embodiments of the at least one support are shown in Figures 8 and 12 with reference numbers 114 and 224, as indicated in the following quotation from paragraph 59 of the specification:

In the present embodiment, the outer lid segment 216 is held in a vertical position by a support similar to the tube 114 of the first embodiment. In this embodiment, the support is a vertical post 224; preferably two posts 224 and preferably tubes with a round cross-section.

These remarks are believed to overcome the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

Claims 1-7, 9-18, and 20 remain in this application. Claims 8 and 19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as containing subject which is not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention with respect to where the scallop of the base is located since claim 13 sets forth a scallop and a front edge. Claim 13 has been amended to recite a pair of scallops and that the front edge extends between the scallops. It is believed that this amendment to Claim 13 overcomes the rejection under 37 USC 112, first paragraph.

Claim 1-4, 6, 8-12, 15, 16, 25, and 26 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Robles (U.S. Patent 2,080,786). Claims 1 and 14 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Menke et al. (U.S. Patent 5,448,860). Claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Childress (U.S. Patent 746,675) and Dietz (U.S. Patent 3,465,765). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Taylor (U.S. Patent 5,507,121). Claims 5 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robles (U.S. Patent 2,080,786).

Claims 8, 19-24, and 27 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claim 8 was cancelled and its subject matter incorporated into claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Similarly, claim 19 was cancelled and its subject matter incorporated into claim 17. Therefore, claim 17 is now in condition for allowance. Claim 25 was amended to include the subject matter of claim 1, as amended. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above in connection with claim 1, claim 17 is now in condition for allowance. The remaining claims properly depend upon one of independent claims 1, 17, and 25 and are in condition for at least the reasons set forth above in connection with these independent claims.

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Reply to Office Action of 11/20/2002

CONCLUSION

If any fees are required for this submission or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.


All rejections and objections having been addressed, applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests prompt notification that this application has been allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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